



**Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Workforce Investment Board**

**Chair's Report
February 12, 2009**

I would like to thank the members of the board for electing me as their new AWIB Chair. I look forward to working with each and every one of you and appreciate your contributions to workforce development priorities for the state. I would like to thank Andy Baker for his service to the board as AWIB Chair from 2004 through January of 2009, and for his continued service as a member of the Executive Committee.

I appointed three members of the AWIB as Committee Chairs at the Executive Committee meeting held February 10, 2009. I appointed Jim Laiti as Chair of the Policy Planning and Assessment and Evaluation Committee, Linda Hulbert as Chair of the Legislative Committee, and Betty Jo Dibble as Chair of the Youth Council. The new committee chairs will serve as members of the Executive Committee and assist me supervising the affairs of the board including Neal Foster as Vice-Chair, Andy Baker as Past Chair, and Doug Ward as Chair of Workforce Readiness and Employment and Placement Committee. The Executive Committee currently has seven board members.

The Executive Committee reviewed nominations on February 10, 2009 and selected Brian Walsh, Welding Instructor from King Career Center as the recipient of the Secondary Vocational Instructor of the Year and Bret Helms, Director of the Plumber's and Pipefitters Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee as the recipient of the Postsecondary Vocational Instructor of the Year. The presentation of these awards will be made at the February AWIB meeting.

I appreciate the hard work and dedication of the AWIB staff in making all preparations for the upcoming board meeting in Juneau. We have a full agenda and I look forward to a productive board meeting and seeing all members in Juneau on February 23rd and 24th.